MARVEL LEGACY

685

AVENGERS® NO SURRENDER

PART 11

ZUB
EWING
WAID
MEDINA
VLASCO
ABURTOV

AVENGERS
NO SURRENDER

The Grandmaster and the Challenger have stolen the Earth to use as a cosmic playing board. The Lethal Legion and the Black Order are their chess pieces, and they're fighting to claim Pyramoids, which wreak elemental havoc on their surroundings. Most of the world's heroes and villains have been trapped in stasis to limit the number of "designated obstacles," leaving behind only a handful of Avengers as the planet's last line of defense.

With the title of "Grandmaster" on the line, the two competitors are pulling out all the stops to secure the final Pyramoid. The Challenger has unleashed his resurrected Hulk, but the Grandmaster had the game rigged from the start: Voyager, the lost founding Avenger who brought Earth's heroes so much hope, is his daughter, and has been using her false identity to tip the odds in her father's favor.

But Voyager is tired of doing the Grandmaster's bidding, and she teleported the last Pyramoid into the vault of the Avengers Auxiliary Headquarters and locked herself inside, hoping to turn the tables on her father--but the Hulk followed her. With all the powerhouse heroes still in the field, only a small number of reserve and injured Avengers are left to stand against a resurrected--and furious--Bruce Banner!

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AVENGERS AUXILIARY HQ

LIGHTNING
MIGUEL SANTOS

RED HULK
GEN. ROBERT L. MAVERICK

IRON PATRIOT
DR. TONI HO

ENIGMA
AIKKU JOKINEN

CANNONBALL
SAM GUTHRIE

QUICKSILVER
PIETRO MAXIMOFF

VISION
(IN STASIS)

AVENGERS FIELD TEAM

FALCON
SAM WILSON

CITIZEN V
ROBERTO DA COSTA

WASP
JANET VAN DYNE

WONDER MAN
SIMON WILLIAMS

SCARLET WITCH
WANDA MAXIMOFF

DOCTOR VOODOO
JERICHO DRUMM

SYNAPSE
EMILY GUERRERO

PROXIMA MIDNIGHT

THE CHALLENGER

BLACK SWAN

THE HULK
BRUCE BANNER

VOYAGER
VALERIE VECTOR

GRANDMASTER

OBSERVE, GRANDMASTER...
BLACK SWAN IS USING THE PLANET'S OWN ROTATION TO SPEED UP THEIR TRAVEL TO THE TARGET.
SUCH INGENUITY...
I'M SURE YOUR LETHAL LEGION WOULD BE IMPRESSED... IF THEY WEREN'T ON THE VERGE OF BEING ELIMINATED.

SCORING AGAINST YOU AT THIS STAGE FEELS ALMOST DISHONORABLE.
NONETHELESS.
VICTORY IS VICTORY... YES?
THE GRANDMASTER'S COSMIC GAME ROOM.
DAUGHTER.
DAUGHTER, I NEED YOU TO RE-ENTER THE GAME.
YOU HAVE THE FINAL PYRAMOID. THE WINNING POINT IS WITHIN MY GRASP.
DAUGHTER, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
YES.
THE AVENGERS AUXILIARY HQ.
BUT I AM NOT YOUR PUPPET.

THIS IS TONI HO, CALLING ALL QUINJETS--ALL A.I.M. UNITS--
--ALL AVENGERS!
WE'RE DOING WHAT WE CAN--BUT WE NEED HELP NOW!
WE CAN'T HOLD HIM OFF ANY LONGER!
THE HULK IS HERE--
--AND HE CAN'T BE STOPPED!

THOOMM
THAT...
THAT ALL YOU GOT...?
KZOOM

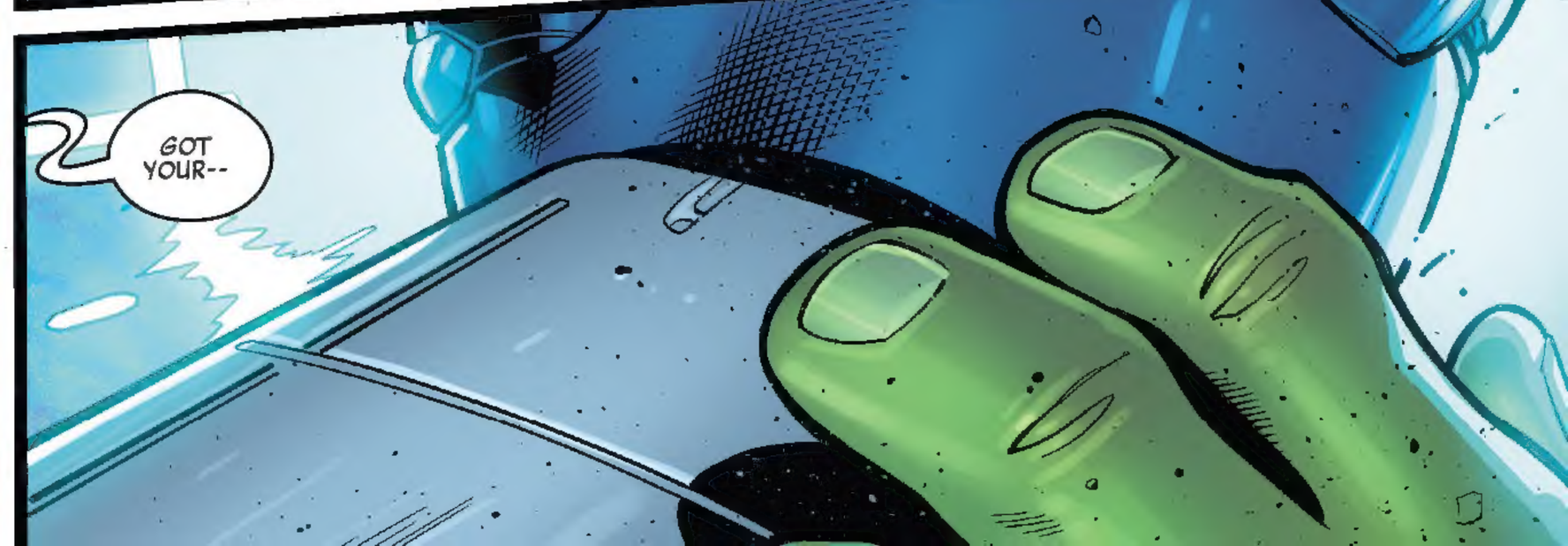
VVWAASSHH

MY TURN.

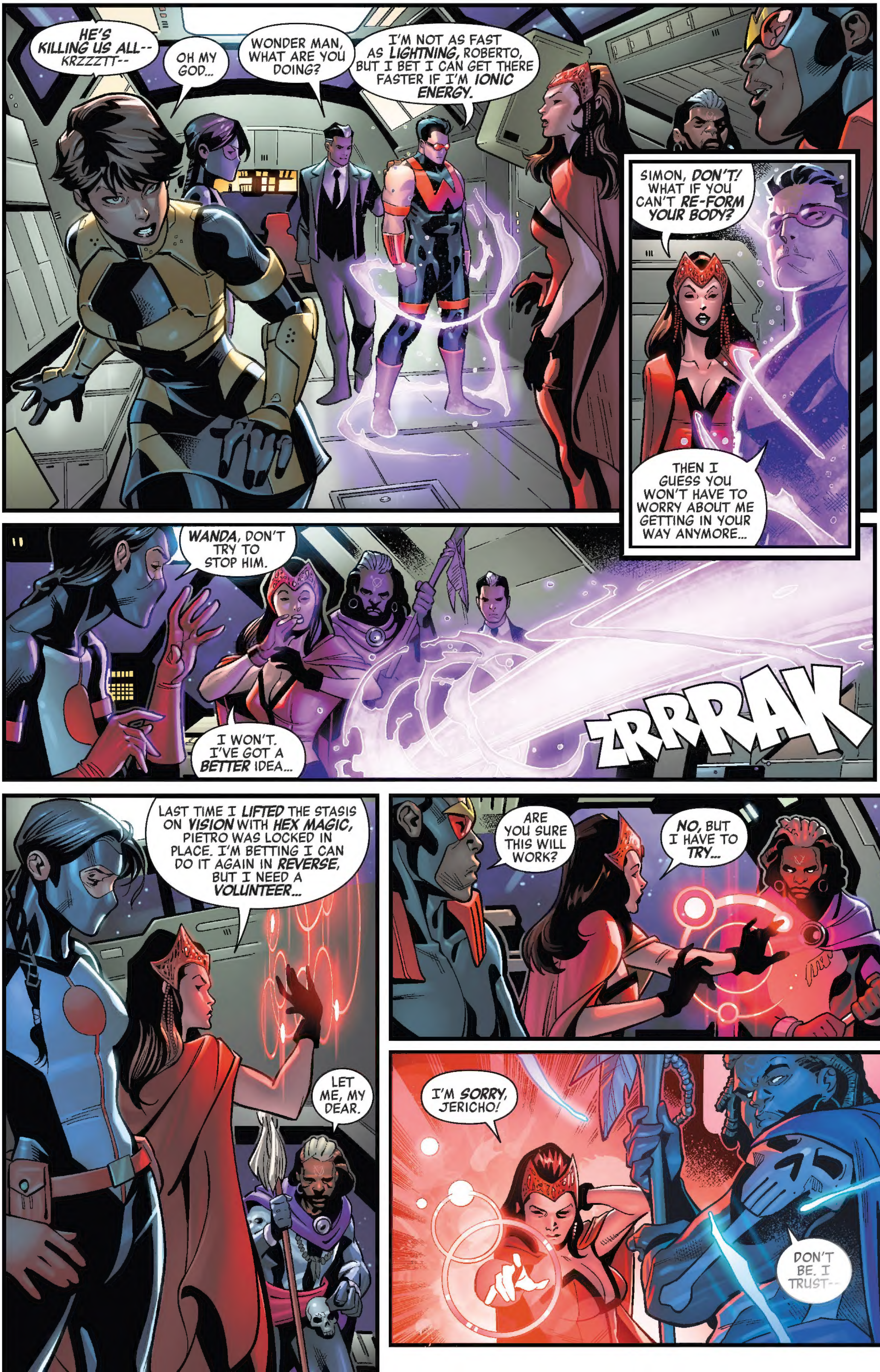
WHAMM

HN.

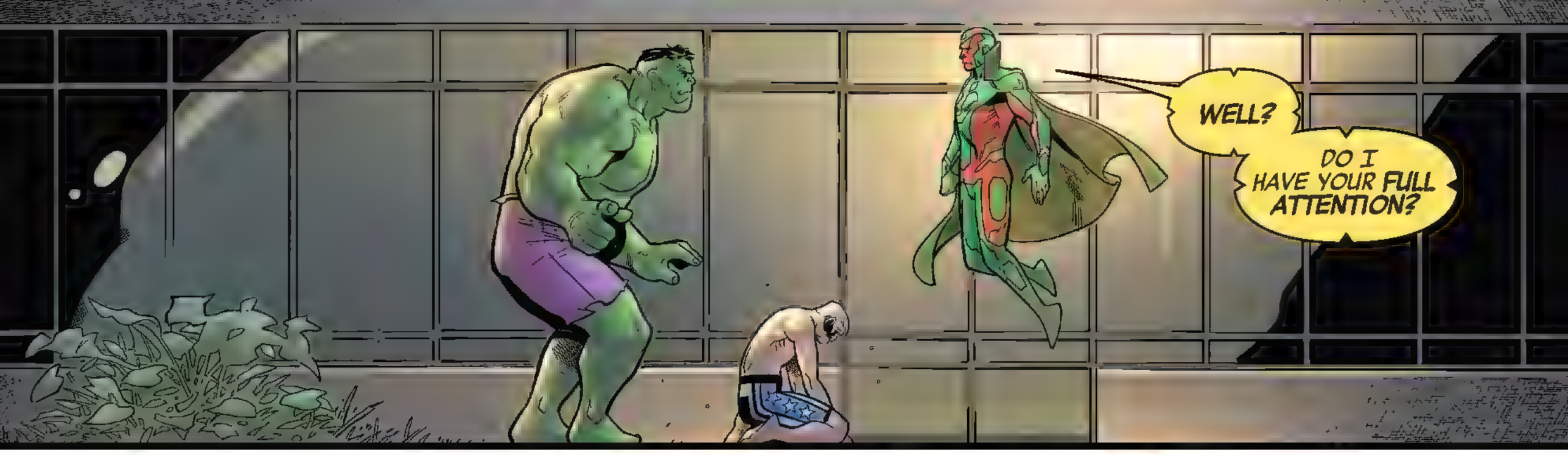
VWAASHH
GOT YOUR ATTENTION, MONSTER...?


GOT YOUR--

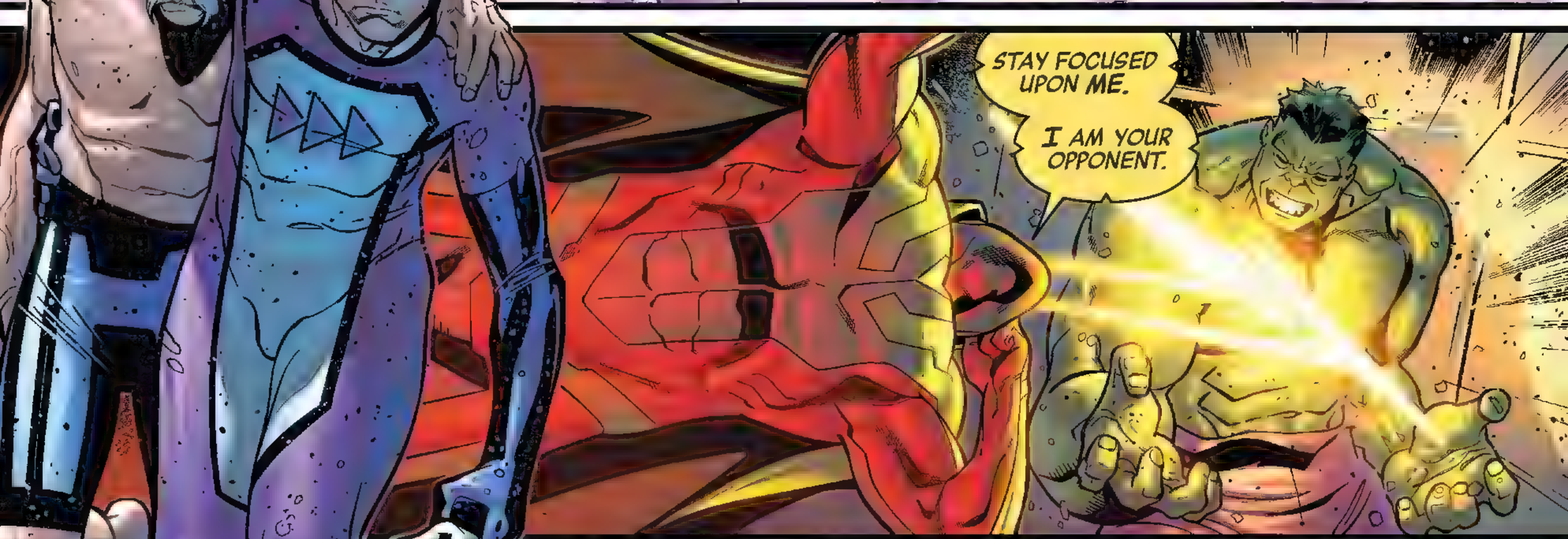
AARRGGHH--
KRRAAKK
WHAT--
WHAT'RE YOU--
NO--
KRRZZTT
WARNING!
GAMMA ENERGY DRAIN
NOT--
NOT LIKE THIS--
HE'S KILLING US!

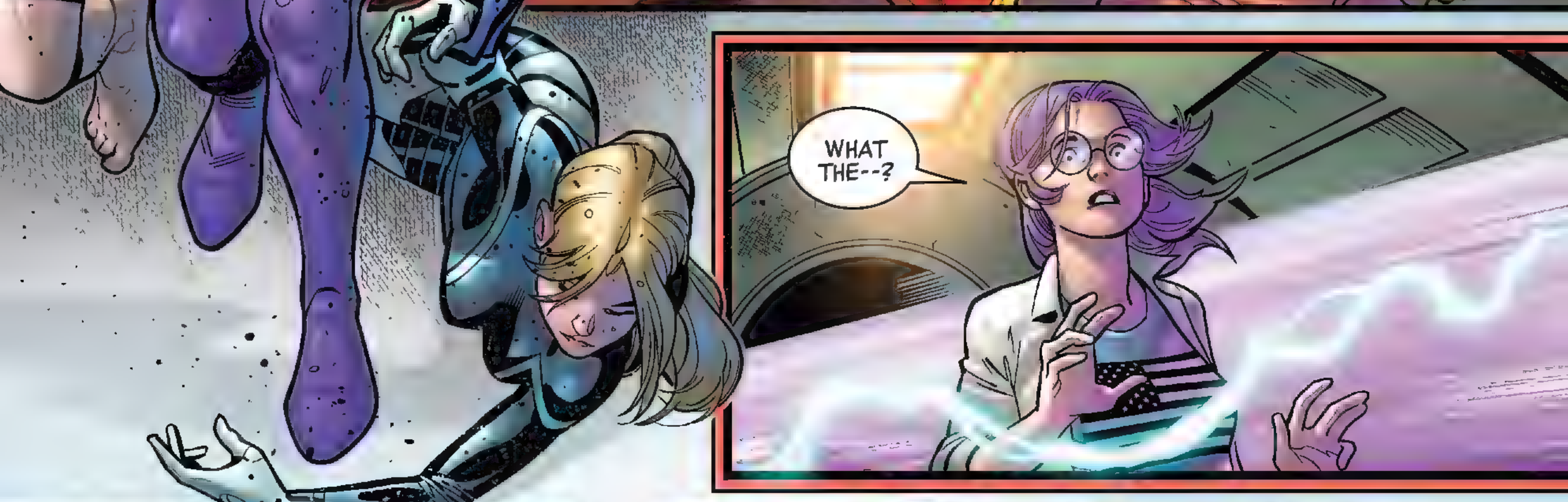

HE'S KILLING US ALL-- KRZZZTT--
OH MY GOD...
WONDER MAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M NOT AS FAST AS LIGHTNING, ROBERTO, BUT I BET I CAN GET THERE FASTER IF I'M IONIC ENERGY.
SIMON, DON'T! WHAT IF YOU CAN'T RE-FORM YOUR BODY?
THEN I GUESS YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME GETTING IN YOUR WAY ANYMORE...
WANDA, DON'T TRY TO STOP HIM.
I WON'T. I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA...
ZRRRRAK
LAST TIME I LIFTED THE STASIS ON VISION WITH HEX MAGIC, PIETRO WAS LOCKED IN PLACE. I'M BETTING I CAN DO IT AGAIN IN REVERSE, BUT I NEED A VOLUNTEER...
LET ME, MY DEAR.
ARE YOU SURE THIS WILL WORK?
NO, BUT I HAVE TO TRY...
I'M SORRY, JERICHO!
DON'T BE. I TRUST--

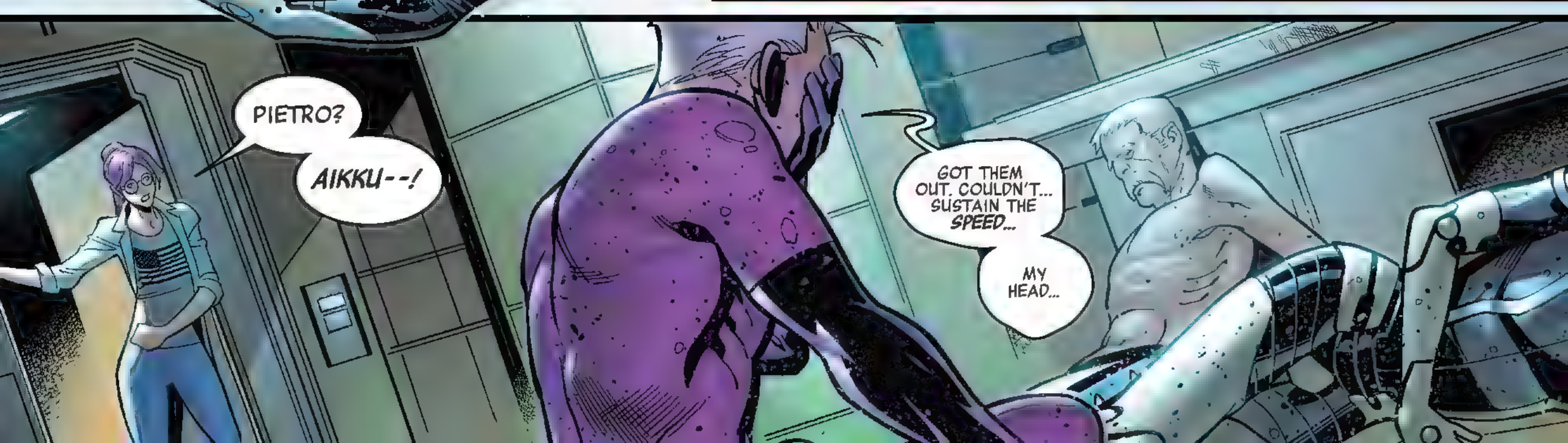
RELEASE GENERAL MAVERICK, HULK!
HNNH?
WHARGH--
YOUR RAMPAGE ENDS HERE.


WELL?
DO I HAVE YOUR FULL ATTENTION?

NOW, QUICKSILVER!
WHOOOOOSH

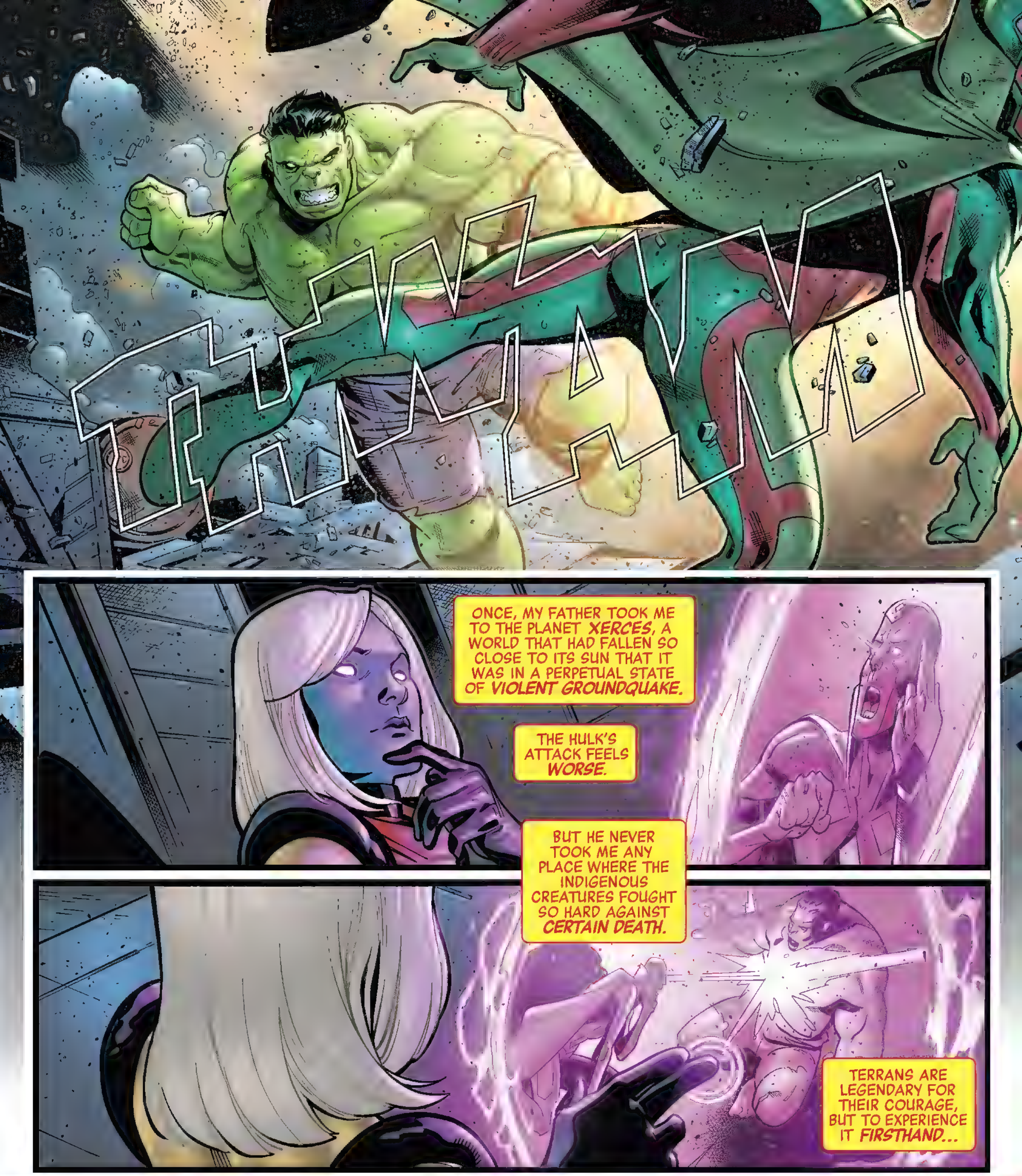

STAY FOCUSED UPON ME.
I AM YOUR OPPONENT.


WHAT THE--?


PIETRO?
AIKKU--!
GOT THEM OUT. COULDN'T... SUSTAIN THE SPEED...
MY HEAD...

THE BLUE SPOTS...
...I CAN SEE IT NOW...
...IT'S AN OBJECT...
...MOVING FASTER THAN THE EYE... CAN...
...SEE...
TONI...?
IS THAT...THE GENERAL...?
HE'S ALIVE, AND HIS HEARTBEAT'S STEADY. I'D CALL THAT A MIRACLE.
ARE YOU OKAY, AIKKU? I--I HEARD YOU SCREAM--
IT WAS LIKE HE TORE OUT PART OF ME.
THE ENIGMA SUIT... IT FEELS... DEAD.
LIKE... LIKE POD DIED...
...
I'M SORRY, HON. I'M SO, SO SORRY. WE...
...WE'LL NEED TO STRIP IT FOR PARTS.

I DON'T KNOW IF BRUCE BANNER'S PSYCHE STILL RESIDES--
THWAM
--WITHIN YOU.
THWOOM
BUT I WILL DO WHAT IS REQUIRED TO CONTAIN YOUR DESTRUCTIVE NATURE.
YOUR MINDLESS RAGE CANNOT COMPREHEND THE WAY I SHIFT MY DENSITY AT WILL...
...OR THE ENERGY UNLEASHED BY MY THERMOSCOPIC EYEB--


HULK SMASH!
ONCE, MY FATHER TOOK ME TO THE PLANET XERCES, A WORLD THAT HAD FALLEN SO CLOSE TO ITS SUN THAT IT WAS IN A PERPETUAL STATE OF VIOLENT GROUNDQUAKE.
THE HULK'S ATTACK FEELS WORSE.
BUT HE NEVER TOOK ME ANY PLACE WHERE THE INDIGENOUS CREATURES FOUGHT SO HARD AGAINST CERTAIN DEATH.
TERRANS ARE LEGENDARY FOR THEIR COURAGE, BUT TO EXPERIENCE IT FIRSTHAND...
SAM...SAM! WAKE UP! WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING!
THE HEAT POURING OUT OF THERE--I CAN BARELY BREATHE, AND IT'S ONLY GETTING HOTTER!

=KOFF=
THAT'S... THAT'S VISION'S HEAT BEAMS...
...BUT I RECKON HE'S SWITCHIN' UP HIS TACTICS.
"SEEN HIM PLAY HIS GHOST CARD BEFORE, THOUGH.
"GONNA SLIDE HIS FINGERS INTA HULK'S HEAD TO SCRAMBLE HIS BRAIN.
"WATCH.
"HE'LL TURN SOLID...AND...

ЕЕУДДДДДН!

011010100010

1001011100

YOU, WAYS.

OH, NO. NO, NO.

YOU SHOULD STILL BE IN STASIS!

WHAT JUST HAPPENED...?

HNH.
"MINDLESS."
THIS IS A NIGHTMARE.
HE'S HEADING FOR THE VAULT. WE CAN'T LET HIM GET TO VOYAGER AND THE PYRAMOID.
YOU GOT AN IDEA 'BOUT STOPPIN' HIM, LIGHTNIN'--AH'M ALL EARS.
AH JUST HOPE VOYAGER CAN--
AW, HELL.
IT SEEMS THE BATTLE IS ALREADY FINISHED.
THE CHALLENGER'S MONSTROSITY HAS CLEARED THE WAY...
...SAVE FOR A PAIR OF FOOLS.

LOOKS LIKE BLACK SWAN'S GOT US *PEGGED*, SAM.

YUP. FOOLS 'TIL THE END.

I'VE SLAIN *THOUSANDS* ACROSS THE GALAXY!

BIG DEAL, LADY. AH ATE *SEVENTEEN HOT DOGS* AT THE *KENTUCKY STATE FAIR!*

WE WILL NOT BE STOPPED!

YEAH, THAT'S WHAT THE *REST* OF YOUR CREW SAID BEFORE WE KICKED THEIR *ASSES.*

JOKE ALL YOU WISH.

DEATH WILL *STILL* COME FOR YOU!

THOOM

UNHH!

HOW WILL YOU *DEFEAT* ME WHEN YOUR ELECTRICITY CAN'T EVEN *PENETRATE* MY *FORCE FIELD?*

RRRRR--!

SHOOM
SHOOM
WELL, TO START--
?!
--I GUESS WE'D NEED WEAPONS GROWN BY EARTH ITSELF AS A PLANETARY DEFENSE.
HER NAME WAS POD. SHE WAS MY FRIEND.
THIS IS FOR HER.
YOU'RE BOTH ANGELS, YOU KNOW THAT?
ZZZZAAK
AHHH!
CONCENTRATE FIRE 'TIL SHE DROPS!
SHOOOOM
NNNG!
YOUR EFFORTS ARE IMPRESSIVE-- BUT IT CHANGES NOTHING!
THE HULK WILL TAKE THE FINAL PYRAMOID!
BOOM
BOOM

"VICTORY IS IMMINENT!"

SHE'S RIGHT, DAMN IT--

WE CANNOT FIGHT THE BLACK ORDER AND THE HULK! YOU MUST THINK OF SOMETHING--

YEAH? LIKE--

--WHAT?

BECAUSE I'D REALLY LIKE TO *TALK*.
TO BE CONTINUED...
IN SEVEN DAYS!

THE ASSEMBLY

Welcome back, True Believers, to another edition of THE ASSEMBLY! Assistant Editor Alanna Smith reporting in, ready to take you behind the scenes of our wonderful weekly extravaganza! We've heard some great theories about the vivacious Valerie Vector--that she's Valeria Richards, or Kobik, or even Ayesha, A.K.A. Her. One site even thought she might be Jarvis! I hope you've had as much fun theorizing as we've had reading theories --but eventually, the truth must come out!

And now that it has, we can finally reveal the original design sheet from SILVER SURFER artist Michael Allred, which we've had to keep secret until now for one very obvious, very BLUE reason...

We knew that, to be believed as a core founding Avenger, Voyager would have to look like she stepped right out of the Marvel Silver Age and into a world of contemporary heroes, where she'd stand out in the same way that all of the founders do in their classic duds. And who better to create that look than the magical Michael Allred? Here's what he had to say about creating Voyager's distinct look:

"Watta thrill to be asked to design Voyager! It was such a kick to put my brain in that 'timeless Marvel Bullpen mode' and work to design a lost classic character and attempt to have her slide right in there.

The biggest challenge was choosing colors that fit into the overall vibe we were going for, but also be completely unique and not redundant or similar to other existing characters. Fortunately, I can look up and yell for my partner in crime, Laura Allred, the best colorist in the biz (brownie points!), to come help me out.

I hope folks will dig her as much I dug bringing her to life."

There are even more twists and turns ahead for our favorite faux-venger, so don't miss a single issue as we race toward the dramatic end of NO SURRENDER!

Assistant out!
-Alanna

Don't forget to email us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM if there's something you'd like us to chat about here at THE ASSEMBLY, and hit your comic shop next week for another exciting issue of AVENGERS: NO SURRENDER!

COME BACK NEXT WEEK FOR MORE...

AVENGERS NO SURRENDER

AVENGERS #686

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AVENGERS #688

As Wonder Man struggles to get through to the Hulk, the Black Order attacks Avengers HQ! The grand cosmic game comes to its shocking conclusion--but the war for Earth is just beginning!

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ZONE